

## Sample newsletter article

### **Get counted!**

We need your help! The Workforce Development Committee – made up of representatives from state and local public health in Washington – needs information about you.

There has never been a full census of the public health workforce in Washington. That means that when we try to talk about public health – to the legislature, to the public, to other agencies – we don't have solid data. We know many of you have credentials that aren't necessarily reflected in your current job, but may be of great benefit to the public health system. We also need information to help us prepare for the future; what are the skills we'll be lacking in 10 or 20 years?

By participating in **Public Health: Everybody Counts!**, you'll help ensure that all governmental public health workers are counted. Public Health: Everybody Counts! is a short survey, available online (<http://www2.doh.wa.gov/phip/survey/everybodycounts/default.htm>) from **Nov. 13 through Dec. 13, 2003**. The local health jurisdiction and Department of Health program with the highest percentage of participation will be thanked with a celebratory event when the event is over. And by Public Health Week in April 2004 we will have a report available to everyone that, for the first time, identifies the skills and credentials of our public health workforce. Watch for more information in upcoming weeks.